



Autumn 2026

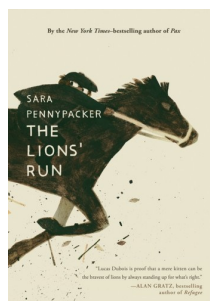
Reading Newsletter.

National Year of Reading 2026

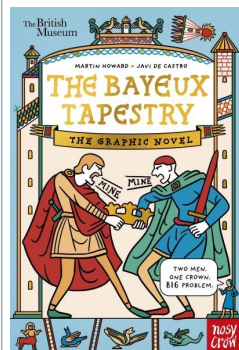
We LOVE books and we LOVE to read at NJS! Whether you are into joke books, fantasy books, scary books or books about the dinosaurs, it doesn't matter at all. We want you to find a book you like and then read it for the pleasure of reading!

Did you know that reading for just **10 minutes a day** exposes you to over **600,000 words** each year, expanding your vocabulary and spelling skills!

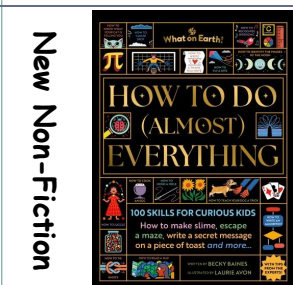
This is my first recommendation. **The Lion's Run** by **Sara Pennypacker**. Lucas is tired of his cowardly reputation, just as he's tired of the war and the occupation of his village. He longs to show how brave he can be. The chance arrives when he saves a litter of kittens from cruel boys and cares for them in an abandoned stable. There he meets Alice, the daughter of a horse trainer, who is hiding her beloved young horse from German soldiers. I loved her book **Pax** and I am sure I will love this one too!



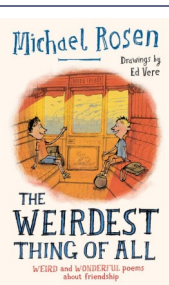
I always loved a graphic novel- Asterix the Gaul or Calvin and Hobbs were favourites. This looks like one I might enjoy too.



With the world famous **Bayeux Tapestry** being displayed in London for the first time, this graphic novel book will show you exactly what it is all about! Find out about the Battle of Hastings in 1066 and how William the Conqueror became king of England. Find out what happened to King Harold. Kings squabble, armies clash and arrows fly in this thrilling, hilarious historical retelling of 1066, this is the Bayeux Tapestry as you've never seen it before!



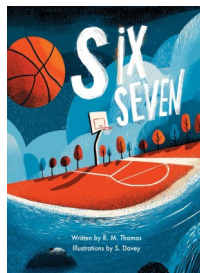
How to do almost everything by **Becky Baines**. A fabulous book full of interesting and fun things to master. A great step by step guide to... well, almost everything!



Michael Rosen returns with a collection of hilarious poems and stories about characters from his own childhood. A witty and funny collection to enjoy.

New Poetry Book

New Graphic Novel



Six Seven by **RM Thomas**
How can two little words cause big trouble—but they do, the silly, imaginative kind. As the mysterious new craze spreads, strange things begin to happen!

Which book character would you like as a best friend and why?
Some staff have picked...

Fred or George Weasley - we'd have a lot of fun and laughter (Mrs Fisher)

Hermione Grainger. She is brave and has the courage to give her friends her honest opinion, even if it isn't what they want to hear. If they are doing something wrong, she'll tell them! (Mrs Wheat)

I would choose **Rebel** from **I Am Rebel** by **Ross Montgomery** to be my best friend. As someone who loves dogs, **Rebel** is exactly the kind of best friend I would want to have. He is loyal, brave and never gives up on the people he cares about. When his owner, **Tom**, goes away to war, **Rebel** risks everything to find him because their friendship means so much to him. I really admire how he stays by **Tom's** side through the toughest times and never leaves him behind. I think **Rebel** would be an amazing friend because I would always be able to trust him, and I know he would be there for me no matter what. If you read the book, you will absolutely see why I would want him too. (Mr Parker)

Sophie from **The BFG**. She's a good listener, a quick thinker and incredibly brave! (Ms Crompton)

I would like to have as a best friend, is **Paddington bear**. **Paddington** always sees the best in everybody and every situation. He believes in good manners, trying your best, even when things go wrong. He appreciates that he is fortunate to have family, who are loving, caring and sometimes a little strange. The world needs more **Paddingtons** (Mrs Jones)

The Snowman. I would love to go on flying adventures with him. (Mrs Moody)

Charlie Bucket from **Charlie and his Chocolate Factory** - especially when he was in charge! Imagine a best friend who owned a chocolate factory!!

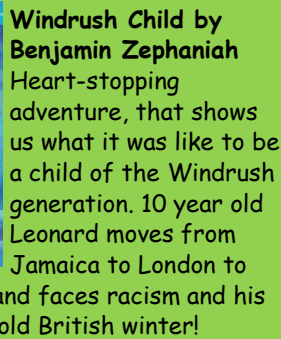
I also think that **Charlie** is kind and genuinely thoughtful — he cares about people without expecting anything back. He is loyal — once you're his friend, he'd stick by you. He is Down-to-earth — he wouldn't judge you for being yourself. I think he's quietly brave — he isn't loud or attention-seeking, but he has a strong moral compass. He's a great listener — I imagine him being the friend you could sit with for hours, talking about absolutely nothing.

(Mr Moody)

Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026

GO
ALL
IN.

These wonderful books explore our special differences (our Protected Characteristics)

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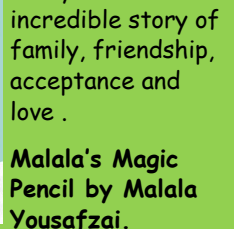
Joyful, funny and heartwarming! *Katir Traas*

BENJAMIN DEAN

**ME,
MY DAD
AND THE
END
OF THE
RAINBOW**

Illustrated by
SANDHYA PRABHAT

'One of the most joyful books you'll read this year' An

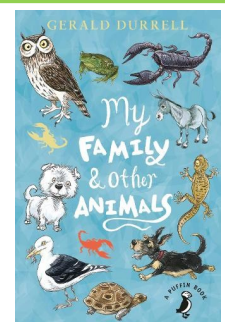


ONCE THEY WERE PETS. NOW, THEY'RE...

THE WILD ONES

STEVE COLE

My Family and other Animals by Gerald Durrell is a true story of one boy's obsessions with the animals he sees around him on the Greek island of Corfu. With snakes in the bath and scorpions on the lunch table, the family home on Corfu is a bit like a zoo, so his eccentric family should feel right at home. A brilliantly funny book which might inspire you to fall in love with animals just like it did for Gerald Durrell.

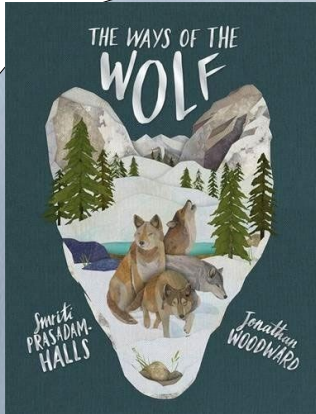


Can you guess the book from the cover picture?



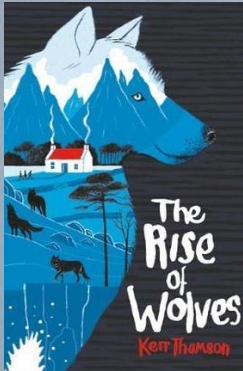
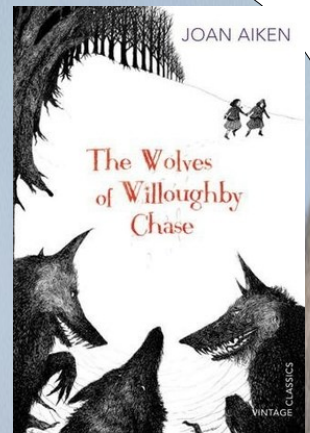
Charlotte's Web 2. The boy at the back of the class 3. The Guinness Book of World Records. 4. The Witches 5. The Worst Witch 6. Captain Underpants 7. The Explorer 8. We're Going on a Bear Hunt 9. Zog

Wolves



The Way of the Wolf is being read by Year 6 and it has inspired this collection of Wolf related books!

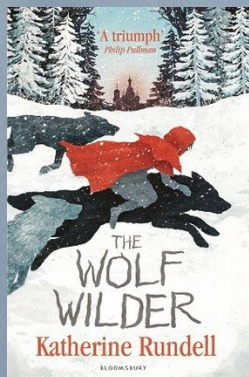
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase by Joan Aiken is a classic story. Thrilling tale...stuffed with atmosphere, adventure, memorable characters and luxuriant prose.



The Rise of Wolves by Kerr Thompson. Wolves are extinct in Scotland aren't they? On the remote island of Nin, a haunting howl is heard as Innis Munro is walking home. This sparks a mysterious story with a fast paced gripping plot.

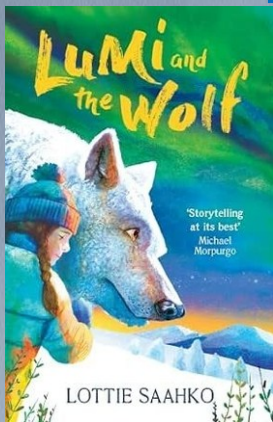
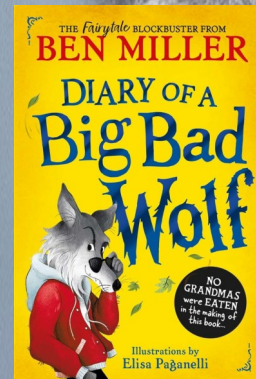


Will Wolfheart by Teresa Heapy. Take a trip to Wolf World with Will and his dog Whiskers. Magical adventure story.

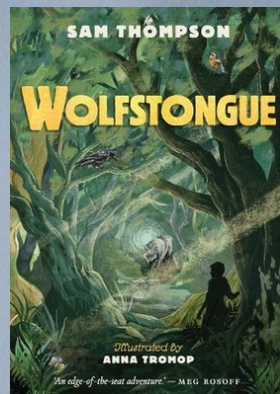


Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell is a story set in snowy Russia. An adventure, about standing up for the things you love and fighting back. And, of course, wolves!

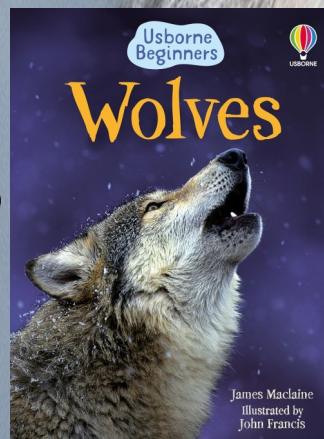
Diary of a Big Bad Wolf by Ben Miller. The big bad wolf hasn't had a great winter. He's cold, lonely and hungry. But things are about to change - he's going to take the Fairytale Woods by storm!



Lumi and the Wolf by Lottie Saahko
A heart-warming, epic adventure across the snowy wilderness and cosy settings of Lapland.



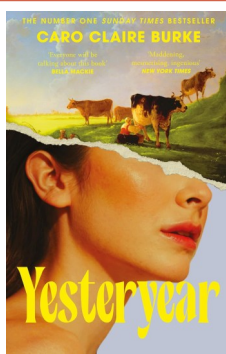
Wolfstongue by Anna Tromp tells the story of a boy with speech problems who enters a hidden world of talking animals and rescue his beloved wolves.



Wolves by James MacLaine is for those who want to learn more about the life and habits of these amazing creatures. A great starting point for animal lovers.

The NJS Big Person Book Club

This part of the Reading Newsletter is just for the grown ups! It will contain ways to support your child with their reading as well as encouraging you to be readers yourself! Being the reading role model in your child's life could be the encouragement they need! So I intend to share book recommendations for adults too in our Big Persons Book Club! Consider yourself members of the club already!



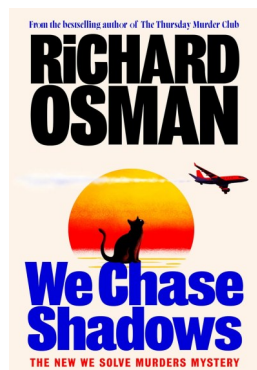
Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke is as darkly funny as it is shocking and gripping.

Natalie is an influencer, leading an idyllic life who goes back in time and wakes up in the 1850s and is forced to live the reality of that life for real. It's such a clever idea and the book does a really good job of showing how different reality can be from the polished version people present online.

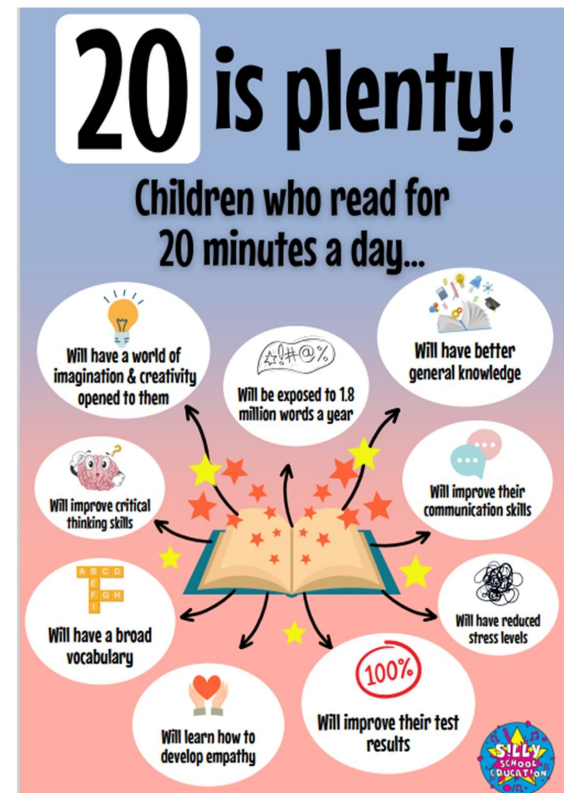
'Highly original and utterly addictive'

'Perceptive, timely, exquisitely written. An outstanding and utterly unique take on how we live today'

We Chase Shadows by Richard Osman is the latest from this award winning author. I really enjoyed his **Thursday Murder Club** series and I may well re-read **We Solve Murders** to remind myself of the characters in this one. A new crime busting duo. Part sit-com, part James Bond novel. What's not to love about his books. Highly recommended.

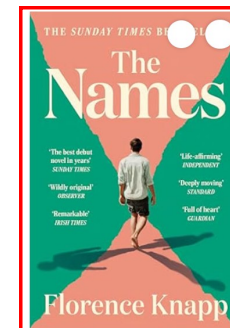


Encouraging your child to read for just 20 minutes a day can have such an impact, as this poster shows!



Link to NJS Guide for Parents

<https://newportjuniorsschool.org.uk/a-parental-guide-to-reading-at-njs/>



The Names by Florence Kemp.

A really clever and quite moving book! Three scenarios about how life could work out for a baby given one of three names.

Quick Three— Staff recommended Good Reads!

Sarah J. Maas - A Court of Thorns and Roses (its a series - I'm on book 2 currently and hooked. Another fantasy. 5 books in total and definitely worth the hype)

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman is brilliant. There are 4 in the series so far and they are full of British, dry wit. A group of 4 very clever, retired people meet once a week to solve cold cases.

Dungeon Crawler Carl by Matt Dinniman. A fantastic post apocalypse adventure in the theme of a LitRPG, where characters gain skills and experiences in the same manner as a video game. Join Carl and his ex-girlfriends cat as they delve through the dungeon levels fighting enemies, level bosses and other crawler as they loot themselves even lower to find out what has happened to the world they once knew.